



Library of Congress Digital Preservation Newsletter

U.S. & India Collaborate

The National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program was well represented at the [Indo-US Workshop on International Trends in Digital Preservation](#) held in Pune, India on March 24-25, 2009. Workshop objectives included learning from the experiences of other nations and developing a strategy for implementing the [Indian National Digital Preservation Programme](#).



Indo-US Workshop Panelists.

The meeting opened with remarks from S. P. Dixit, Director-in-Charge of the [Indian Centre for Development of Advanced Computing](#), the workshop sponsor. Dixit stressed the critical importance of preserving and making available Indian digital cultural heritage. This theme was further developed by Dr. A.K Chakravarti, Advisor with the Indian Department of Information Technology.

Chakravarti noted “a need to understand and adopt international best practices and international standards,” and to “learn from the experience of other countries, learn from the experience of other domains.” He set the Indian cultural context by stating that digital preservation was needed to ensure that people could “watch Satyajit Ray films or hear the Oscar winning Rehman ‘Jai Yo’ song in 50 years.”

The balance of the program was made up of presentations from Indian and international speakers. The latter included several individuals who spoke about NDIIPP-related activities, including [Joseph JaJa](#) (who served as the lead U.S. Principal Investigator for the Workshop), [Victoria Reich](#), [Keith Johnson](#), [Micah Altman](#), [G. Sayeed Choudhury](#), [Steven Morris](#) and [Reagan W. Moore](#). Bill LeFurgy represented the Library of Congress. The workshop con-

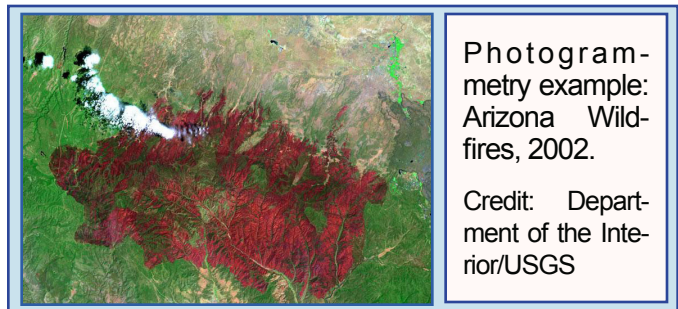
cluded with a panel of international and Indian participants who offered recommendations for how India could advance its interest in digital stewardship. Suggestions included developing a roadmap or strategic plan to guide implementation, further stakeholder meetings and demonstration projects to enable shared learning. •

Preserving Photogrammetry

Photogrammetry is:

- A. The process of checking the grammatical correctness of photo captions
- B. An updated version of the telegram
- C. Obtaining reliable information about physical objects and the environment by recording, measuring and interpreting images and patterns of electromagnetic radiant energy and other phenomena

Correct answer: C. The 75th anniversary annual meeting of the [American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing](#) considered digital stewardship issues raised by the NDIIPP [Geospatial Multistate Archive and Preservation Partnership](#).



Photogrammetry example: Arizona Wildfires, 2002.

Credit: Department of the Interior/USGS

ASPRS has over 7,000 international members working in the areas of photogrammetry, remote sensing, geographic information systems and supporting technologies. Remote sensing techniques are used to gather and process information about an object without direct physical contact.

The information and data generated by ASPRS members provides input into thousands of digital mapping applications, used by millions of people, including the current wave of consumer-friendly mapping applications. The explosive growth of these tools makes the preservation of the underlying data even more important. Read [more](#) about how NDIIPP partners are building awareness of digital preservation in the photogrammetry community. •



Community Approaches to Preservation Conference

The [MetaArchive](#) Project helped sponsor [Community Approaches to Digital Preservation 2009](#), a February 20, 2009 conference focusing on collaborative approaches to digital preservation services.

The event featured speakers from a number of digital preservation efforts, including the [Echo Depository Project](#), [DataPASS](#) and [LOCKSS](#).

A highlight of the meeting was a presentation by Sarah Higgins of the [Digital Curation Centre](#), who provided an abbreviated workshop outlining the [DCC Curation Lifecycle Model](#). The model is intended as a tool for use in conjunction with relevant standards to plan curation and preservation activities. •

Pioneer: The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

The motion picture industry is rapidly changing from film to digital media, and within the next decade it is likely that most new movies will exist in digital form only. As the industry embraces new technology, there is concern about the long-term preservation of digital productions. The [Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences](#) is working quickly and diligently to remedy the situation and save valuable works before they become lost.

Since the Academy was founded in 1927, it has influenced and helped develop motion picture industry standards. The Academy has also played an important role in analog film preservation, but digital preservation is turning out to be one of the Academy's most daunting technological challenges since silent movies converted to talkies.

There is currently no widely accepted solution for digital motion picture preservation, so the Academy asked its Science and Technology Council to study the state of digital preservation worldwide. The Council consulted with motion picture technicians and archivists, and digital preservation experts from military, medical and scientific and government institutions, and presented their findings in [The Digital Dilemma](#). The report draws a sober conclusion: "There is no digital archival master format or process with longevity characteristics equivalent to that of film."



Milt Shefter and Andy Maltz of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences

Andy Maltz, Director of the Council and co-author of the report, said the challenge is huge. "The industry is pretty clear that it needs a preservation plan at least as good as what it has right now for analog film, which meets a 100-year access requirement," he said. "We see no reason to abandon this goal even in the absence of a technology that satisfies it at the moment."

Milt Shefter, co-author of *The Digital Dilemma* and lead on the [NDIIPP project](#) focusing on independent filmmakers and small archives, stresses that motion picture owners are motivated by financial concerns and will be reluctant to invest large amounts of money for storage and future access to preserve a movie after it has already generated most of its expected revenue.

Read [more](#) about AMPAS and their work in preserving digital film on [digitalpreservation.gov](#). •

Announcements

- The Call for Papers is now open for the [Cultural Heritage Online Conference](#) December 15-16, 2009 in Florence, Italy. The conference is sponsored by the Digital Renaissance Foundation, the Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities and the Library of Congress.
- Registration is now open for the [Archiving 2009 Conference](#) May 4-7, 2009 in Arlington, Va., sponsored by the Society for Imaging Science and Technology. The preliminary program, including the conference registration and hotel information, is now [available](#) (PDF. 1.1 Mb).

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